



BIOGRAPHY

THERESA MARIE WHELAN

Current Position: Ms. Whelan currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs within the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Her office is responsible for Department of Defense policy for Africa, excluding Egypt. Ms. Whelan brings to her position twenty years of experience in the defense intelligence and defense policy communities, including sixteen years focusing on African issues.

Career History: Prior to assuming the DASD position, Ms. Whelan served as Director of the Office of African Affairs for two years. From June 1998 to November 2000, Ms. Whelan was assigned to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy's Balkans Task Force where she served first as the NATO Team Chief throughout the Kosovo crisis and then as the Task Force Deputy Chief of Staff. She was also a Defense Department representative on the US negotiating team at the Kosovo Talks in Rambouillet and Paris, France from February to March 1999.

Her prior positions in the Office of the Secretary Defense include those of Senior Program Director for the US/South Africa Joint Defense Committee from January to August 1997, Countries Director for Southern Africa from January 1994 to January 1997 and Countries Director for West Africa from September 1991 to January 1994. From 1987 to 1991 Ms. Whelan served as an African Military Capabilities Analyst for the Defense Intelligence Agency covering West, Central and East African countries.

Ms. Whelan has a Master of Arts degree in National Security Studies from Georgetown University and a Master of Science degree in National Security Strategy from the National War College. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations with a minor in Russian Studies from the College of William and Mary. Ms. Whelan was also nominated for and completed a year-long fellowship with the Council on Excellence in Government in 1996.